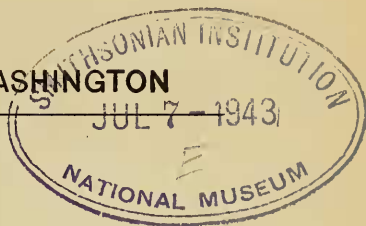


PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON



TWO NEW BIRDS FROM TROPICAL AMERICA.

BY W. E. CLYDE TODD.

In the course of identifying the Kingfishers and Motmots in the collection of the Carnegie Museum there has been discovered in each family one form which appears to have been heretofore unrecognized, and for which names are supplied herewith.

*Chloroceryle inda chocoensis*, subsp. nov.

*Type*, No. 65,979, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; El Tambo, Chocó, Colombia, April 1, 1918; M. A. Carriker, Jr.

*Subspecific characters*.—Similar to *Chloroceryle inda inda* (Linnæus) of tropical South America in general, but coloration of underparts richer and deeper (mahogany red, instead of burnt sienna or Sanford's brown); upperparts with the sheen more bluish, less greenish; and tail averaging shorter.

*Range*.—Western Columbia (and western Ecuador?).

*Remarks*.—This species of kingfisher is not common anywhere but appears to be remarkably constant in characters throughout its extensive range. The only variations noticeable are due to sex and age. Only in western Colombia is any geographical variation in evidence. Our three specimens from the Chocó region appear to constitute a slightly differentiated race, whose characters are better marked in the female. Eight males of true *inda* from eastern South America have tails from 60 to 67 mm. long (average, 63.6). Two males of the present form, 58, 59 mm. Presumably, the range of this form extends to western Ecuador, since Chapman (Bulletin American Museum of Natural History, 55, 1926, 269) remarks on the deeply colored underparts of his specimens from that region. From the Oyapock River, northern Brazil, we have one male (no. 68,274) which is a good match for the western Colombian specimens in the color of the underparts, but the tail is much longer and the upperparts are greener.

While I thus have no trouble in discriminating a race of *Chloroceryle inda* from western Colombia, I must confess my inability to recognize a

race of *C. americana* from the same region, as proposed by Laubmann (Anzeiger Ornithologischen Gesellschaft Bayern, No. 7, 1922, 51). He bases his new form (*hellmayri*) mainly on the character of having less bronzy green spotting on the under tail-coverts. I cannot see that this is true of our specimens (two only) from western Colombia, and I find that it is a variable character in our series as a whole. Indeed, Chapman (*l. c.*) expressly says that "the lower tail-coverts in our 40 Peruvian specimens average as much spotted as in *americana*"—and *hellmayri* is alleged to be intermediate between *cabanisi* and *americana*.

***Baryphthengus martii costaricensis*, subsp. nov.**

*Type*, No. 23,891, Collection Carnegie Museum, adult male; Cuabre, Rio Sicsola, Costa Rica, February 27, 1904; M. A. Carriker, Jr.

*Subspecific characters*.—Similar to *Baryphthengus martii semirufus* Sclater of Colombia, but larger; upperparts brighter green; tail bluer basally; and under tail-coverts and inner webs of the tertiaries with more blue sheen.

*Range*.—Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

*Remarks*.—Costa Rica birds of this species, as shown by Ridgway's tables of measurements as well as my own, are uniformly larger than those from Colombia; the tail in particular is longer. Four males from Colombia measure; wing, 142–148; tail, 225–265; bill (exposed culmen), 41–49; tarsus, 31–33. Three females: wing, 138–146; tail, 240–253; bill, 44; tarsus, 29–31. Three males from Costa Rica, on the other hand: wing, 154–155; tail, 284–315; bill, 47–52; tarsus, 31–34. Four females: wing, 147–153; tail, 250–288; bill, 45–48; tarsus, 30–32. They differ also in color; the upperparts are rich grass green (as against the duller hellebore green of the Colombian specimens); and there is a decided blue sheen on the wings, tail, and under tail-coverts. These differences are obvious and constant in the series examined and will suffice for subspecific separation. It is strange that Ridgway did not take this step. Although the type-locality of *semirufus* Sclater is uncertain, it is unlikely that his bird could have come from Costa Rica. According to Ridgway Panama birds of this species are as small as Colombian examples, but I do not know what their color characters are.